

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10. (Cancelled)

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [10] 19 wherein the waste water contains 0.3 to 1.5 percent by weight of carbonic acid or carbonates.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [10] 19 wherein the waste water contains 4 to 12 percent by weight of common salt.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [10] 19 wherein the TOC compounds include phenol.

Claim 14. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [10] 19 wherein the treating of the waste water is at 60 to 90°C.

Claim 15. (Cancelled)

Claim 16. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [15] 20 wherein the content of TOC compounds of the waste water is more than 5 ppm.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [15] 20 wherein the content of TOC compounds of the waste water is more than 10 ppm.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The process of Claim [15] 20 wherein the waste water contains 4 to 12 percent by weight of common salt.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) A process for decomposing organic compounds present in waste water comprising

- (i) obtaining waste water having content of TOC compounds greater than 2 ppm, and pH lower than 7 containing at least 0.1 wt.% of dissolved carbonic acid or carbonates and 2 to 20 wt.% common salt , and
- (ii) treating the waste water with ozone at 10 to 130°C, at absolute pressure of 0.5 to 3 bar, and over a period of 1 minute to 10 hours and
- (iii) obtaining water having TOC lower than 1 ppm and pH greater than 7.5.

20. (Previously presented) A process for producing chlorine comprising

- (i) obtaining waste water having content of TOC compounds greater than 2 ppm, pH lower than 7, containing at least 0.1 wt.% of dissolved carbonic acid or carbonates and 2 to 20 wt.% common salt ,
- (ii) treating the waste water with ozone at 10 to 130°C, absolute pressure of 0.5 to 3 bar, over a period of 1 minute to 10 hours to obtain an aqueous salt solution having TOC less than 1 ppm and pH of greater than 7.5, and
- (iii) subjecting said salt solution to electrolysis.